

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In the Final Office Action of November 30, 2005 (the "Final Office Action"):

1. Claims 1-6 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 4,919,112 issued to Siegmund ("Siegmund"); and
2. Claims 8-9, 12-15, 17-19, 22 and 25-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of intervening claim 5 and objected to claim 8, and therefore, is believed to be allowable according to the Final Office Action.

Consistent with this amendment, claims 5, 6 and 8 have been cancelled.


Claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of objected to claim 22, and therefore, is also believed to be allowable according to the Final Office Action.

Consistent with this amendment, claim 22 has been cancelled.

Claims 1-4, 9, 12-15, 17-20, and 25-27 are pending in the application. Claims 5-8, 10-11, 16, 21-24, and 28-29 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested, and an early notice of their allowability earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 24, 2006

  
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